

COLEOPTERA IN NORFOLK

By M. COLLIER*

Although the extraction and collation of published Norfolk coleoptera records is still in progress, it is hoped that it will not be premature to detail the occurrence of some of the more interesting species which, as far as I am aware, have not previously been recorded from this county.

Pterostichus angustatus (Duft.) — Roydon Common, TF 6821 (VC 28), 30.iii.84. Under a fence post lying on the edge of a ride separating a coniferous plantation from heathland. The heath has I believe been subject to fire damage in recent years. Although I have yet to find a published Norfolk record for this species, Dr. M. Luff informs me that he has received details of two separate captures in the Sheringham area (VC 27) in 1979.

Cercyon bifenestratus Kust. — Lopham Fen, TM 07 (VC 27), 9.ix.81. A single example of this rare species has been awaiting further examination since its capture and its identity has only recently been established. I am aware of records in only three other counties in recent years (Kent, Sussex and Warwickshire) although Joy (1932, *A Practical Handbook of British Beetles*) also cites Lincolnshire. I hope to look for further specimens in the near future but it would appear probable that the insect is either of rare occurrence or a recent colonist at this site because Pope (1969, *Trans. Suffolk Nat. Soc.* 14: 189-207) does not list it in his fairly comprehensive preliminary survey of coleoptera at these fens.

Trixagus obtusus (Curt.) — Billingford, TM 1678 (VC 27), 14.x.84. This diminutive throsoid was very nearly overlooked in the sievings of leaf litter from beneath a small oak on common land.

Carpophilus sexpustulatus (F.) — Norwich, TG 2108 (VC 27), 25.ix.83. Attracted to a *Cossus* sap run, first noticed by Dr. A. Irwin, on an oak in a large city cemetery. Other species present included *Aphodius contaminatus* (Hbst.) and various common nitidulids.

Ahasverus advena (Waltl) — Lopham Fen, TM 0579 (VC 27), 23.ix.84. Although long considered to be largely restricted to stored products in this country, I believe this species is not now uncommon in certain outdoor situations. My Norfolk specimens came from sieving mouldy hay at the base of a stack on the edge of the fen but I have also found it in abundance on mouldy grain, left out to feed game birds, at Thornham Park, Suffolk in 1983.

Cryptophagus schmidti Stm. — Babingley, TF 6725 (VC 28), 28.iv.84. This apparently rare species was found on a rotting root

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vegetable at the edge of a manure heap in a farm yard. Unfortunately only a single specimen was present although sievings from nearby disused farm buildings have still to be sorted. Coombs and Woodroffe (1955, *Trans. R. E. S. L.* **106**: 237-282) failed to find this species themselves but quote references of its occurrence in granaries and a haystack.

Adistemia watsoni (Woll.) — Examples of this interesting little lathridiid were sent to Dr. E. A. Ellis, after having been found in abundance in a newly built bungalow at Wymondham (VC 27) in January 1985 (1985, *Eastern Daily Press*, Jan. 19). I have also obtained specimens from the same source. Previous records in this country have been summarized by Welch (1984, *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* **120**: 206) and it will be interesting to see whether the few recent records indicate the beginning of a spread in distribution, which should occur if the beetle is able to utilize the many situations in which other mould feeding Lathridiidae abound.

Cis alni Gyll. — West Harling Heath, TL 9883 (VC 28), 1.vii.84. Surprisingly there appear to be no previous Norfolk records for this species although the standard reference works do not indicate it to be of particularly rare occurrence.

Anthicus tobias Mars. — Foulden Common, TF 7600 (VC 28). First taken by Dr. A. Irwin on 24.vii.84 on a small tip consisting mostly of sawdust and wood chippings. The beetle was still present in numbers on 19.viii.84 and was surprisingly difficult to capture, running very rapidly and taking to flight in the hot sunshine.

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NEW LOCALITIES FOR *CYDIA CAECANA* SCHLAG IN WILTSHIRE.
— At approximately 1900 hours on the 30th May 1984 while searching for microlepidoptera on the central portion of the Salisbury Plain, I netted a distinctive looking *Cydia* with which I was unfamiliar, but later identified it as *C. caecana*. According to Bradley, Tremewan & Smith (*British Tortricoid Moths*) it has only been recorded from two other localities in Wiltshire, and is otherwise only known from Kent. On discussing my find with Mr. Godfrey Smith from near Trowbridge, he informed me he had recorded the species from the Imber area some five miles west of my location. It therefore seems that *caecana* has a limited distribution over the central downland areas of Wiltshire. — S. M. PALMER, The Warren, Hindon Road, Dinton, Wilts.